16. The forest area at the end of the year exhibits an increase of 159 square miles and 630 acres.

17. The changes which have occurred in divisional forest areas, and the causes of these changes, will be seen in this statement:—

No.	Division.	Reserved Forests.								Protected Forests.							
		Additions.				Exclusions.				Additions.				Exclusions.			
		By Notification.		By Rectification.		By Notification.		By Rectification.		By Notification.		By Rectification.		By Notification.		By Rectification.	
		Square miles.	Acres.	Square miles.	Acres.	Square miles.	Acres.	Square miles.	Acres.	Square miles.	Acres.	Square miles.	Acres.	Square miles.	Acres.	Square miles.	Acres.
1	East Khándesh	...	...	...	...	...	148	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2	West Khándesh	143	182	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3	Násik	...	261	...	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4	Ahmednagar	...	217	1	435	...	222	...	485	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	30
5	Poona	3	137	...	...	...	94	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6	Sátára	15	16	...	153	2	222	...	66	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7	Sholápur	...	76	...	...	...	188	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Total ...	162	249	1	588	3	249	...	574	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	30

(ii).—FOREST SETTLEMENTS.

18. The work of forest settlement is practically complete in the Central Circle, the Forest Conservancy Projects of every táluka having been drawn up, approved and sanctioned by Government, but some occupied lands are contained within the conservancy reservation, and these are being acquired gradually by Forest Settlement Officers as opportunity may offer, when the rights attaching to them are inquired into, settled and recorded under the prescriptions of the forest law.

19. The following statement shows the areas acquired during the year and the method and cost of acquirement:—

No.	Division.	By Exchange.	By Purchase.		Acreage rate.
		Acres.	Acres.	Amount paid.	
				Rs.	Rs. a. p.
1	East Khándesh	...	324	1,647	5 1 4
2	West Khándesh	866	391	1,432	3 10 7
3	Násik	...	...	...	.....
4	Ahmednagar	89	100	1,311	13 1 9
5	Poona	412	47	142	3 0 4
6	Sátára	222	134	1,157	8 10 1
7	Sholápur	...	...	...	.....
	Total ...	1,589	996	5,689	5 11 4

20. Of the Khándesh divisions Mr. J. H. DuBoulay, I. C. S., Assistant Collector, was special Forest Settlement Officer throughout the year, in addition to his own Revenue and Magisterial duties. Occupied lands were acquired by purchase:—

No.	Táluka.	Area.	Compensation.
		Acres.	Rs.
1	Chálisgaon... ...	119	817
2	Jalgaon	205	830
3	Dhulia	335	1,313
4	Pimpalner	56	119
	Total ...	715	3,079

The settlement under the Forest Act was effected in respect of all occupied lands which have from time to time been acquired in Páchora, Sindkheda, Amalner and Jámner Tálukas, and draft notifications under Section 19 have been submitted to Government for publication for constituting them reserved forest. The demarcation of the forest boundary by pillars in Pimpalner and the Akráni was being carried out by the Surveyors of the Settlement Office under the supervision of Mr. DuBoulay; and other miscellaneous work was performed.

21. In the Násik Collectorate the Assistant and Deputy Collectors are *ex-officio* Forest Settlement Officers in respect of the tálukas in their respective Revenue sub-divisions. 35 acres were notified under Section 4, and 261 acres were finally notified under Section 19, after settlement proceedings in respect of them had been completed. 10 acres of reserved forests were disforested under Section 26. No lands were acquired in this district.

22. The Forest Settlement Office, Ahmednagar, was in charge of Mr. Vyankatesh Bápuji Vadekar, District Deputy Collector, throughout the year, in addition to his own Revenue and Magisterial duties; of occupied lands inside the forest boundaries 100 acres were acquired by purchase and 89 acres by exchange, Rs. 1,311 being paid by way of compensation for the former, and Government waste lands being given in exchange for the latter. 520 acres were notified under Section 4, but settlement inquiries in respect of them were not completed up to the close of the year.

23. Mr. H. W. J. Bagnell, I.C.S., was in charge of the Forest Settlement Office of the Poona division throughout the year except from 27th July to 26th October 1894, when Mr. T. D. Fry, I.C.S., temporarily held the office. Both these officers had their own Revenue and Magisterial duties to attend to in addition. 412 acres of occupied lands were acquired for forests by exchange and 47 acres of occupied lands by payment of compensation, Rs. 142—2,057 acres have been notified under Section 19, and 1,013 acres under Section 4. Settlement inquiries in respect of these lands are in progress. 94 acres were disforested under Section 26, and a proposal for the disforestment of certain lands bordering on the Nira Canal has been submitted for sanction. Comparative statements showing the changes in the survey numbers and area of forest land due to the introduction of the revision survey in the tálukas of Khed, Mával and Haveli, and peta Mulshi, have been prepared.

24. The Forest Settlement Office, Sátára, was in charge of Mr. S. R. Arthur, I.C.S., throughout the year in addition to his own duties as Second Assistant Collector. Forest registers according to the Revision Survey were completed for the Sátára, Koregaon, Wái, Khandála, Mán, Khatáv, Khánápur and Tásgaon ranges. 2,097 acres were notified under Section 4, and were settled. Fresh inquiries were held in respect of certain forest lands in the Khatáv and Mán Tálukas the rights in which had already been enquired into, but the proceedings had been quashed by the Collector on an appeal preferred by the Conservator of Forests, Central Circle. 222 acres have been acquired by exchange, and 134 acres by purchase; and Rs. 1,157 were paid in payment of compensation. All reports on the subject of conversion of Khálsa land into Inám in exchange for Inám land taken up for forest have been submitted for the sanction of Government in the case of Devasthán Inám, and for that of the Commissioner in the case of service Inám; and in all cases sanction has been accorded by Government and by the Commissioner respectively. Supplementary Village Forms (No. 1A) for each village in which new survey numbers have been added under Section 19 of the Forest Act by Government Notification No. 9510, dated 20th November 1894 and No. 4369A, dated 11th June 1895, have been prepared in duplicate in accordance with the notifications, and are being distributed, one copy being sent to the Range Forest Officer through the Divisional Forest Officer, and the other to the village concerned through the Collector. 9,616 acres have been added to forests and 1,502 acres have been excluded during the year under Sections 19 and 26 respectively.

25. In the Sholápur Collectorate the Assistant and Deputy Collectors are *ex-officio* Forest Settlement Officers. 76 acres were added to forests, and 188 acres disforested, under Sections 19 and 26 of the Forest Act respectively.

26. Forest and waste lands which have been provisionally notified under Section 4 of the Forest Act and which were still undergoing settlement inquiries at the close of the year, are exhibited in the following statement :—

No.	Division.	Area.		Remarks.
		Square miles.	Acres.	
1	East Khándesh	3	526	
2	West Khándesh	2	579	
3	Násik	...	35	
4	Ahmednagar	...	520	
5	Poona	2	461	
6	Sátára	3	177	
7	Sholápur	...	17	
	Total ...	13	395	

27. No privileges already conceded by Government in favour of the local population, or of any sections of them, in any of the divisions of the Central Circle have been rescinded or diminished, nor have their scope been enlarged; and no new privileges have been granted.

28. The following statement shows the details of expenditure charged to forests on account of the cost of forest settlements and the work accomplished during the year :—

No.	Division.	Work accomplished.		Cost of Establishments, &c.				Remarks.
		Square miles.	Acres.	Pay.	Travelling Allowance.	Contingencies.	Total Cost.	
				Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1	East Khándesh ...	143	182	3,340	502	262	4,104	
2	West Khándesh ...							
3	Násik	...	261	...	...	...	...	
4	Ahmednagar	...	217	...	...	29	29	
5	Poona	3	137	1,099	410	231	1,740	
6	Sátára	15	16	1,289	195	207	1,691	
7	Sholápur	...	76	...	...	...	...	
	Total ...	162	249	5,728	1,107	729	7,564	

(iii).—DEMARCATION.

29. The work of erecting special forest boundary marks to demarcate forest boundaries was carried on during the year in all the divisions of the Central Circle to the following extent, and at the cost mentioned :—

No.	Division.	Length of Boundaries in miles.	Number of Special Boundary-marks.			Total cost.	Remarks.
			Large.	Small.	Total.		
1	East Khándesh	28	76	174	250	125	
2	West Khándesh	240	242	1,874	2,116	788	
3	Násik	189	2,415	6,077	8,492	3,709	
4	Ahmednagar	179	2,603	21	2,624	1,330	
5	Poona	62	1,674	357	2,031	1,110	
6	Sátára	126	49	3,045	3,094	670	
7	Sholápur	9	12	484	496	141	
	Total ...	833	7,071	12,032	19,103	7,873	